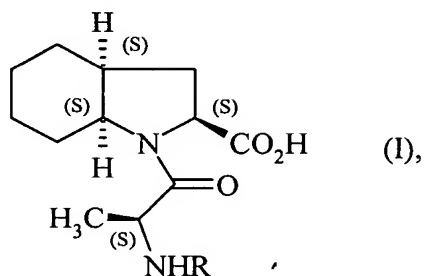




### LISTING OF CLAIMS

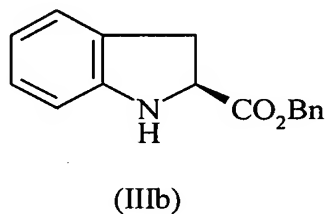
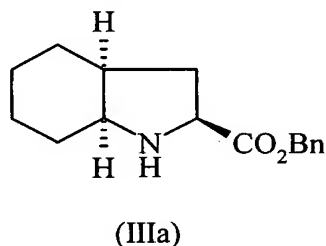
Claims 1-6 (CANCELED)

7. (currently amended) A process for the synthesis of compounds of formula (I)



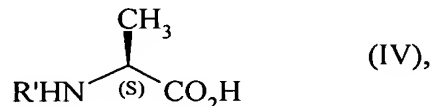
wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a protecting group for the amino function,

wherein a benzyl ester of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb) :



or an addition salt of the ester of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb) with a mineral acid or organic acid, is reacted

with an alanine compound of formula (IV) :



wherein R' represents a protecting group for the amino function selected from tert-butyloxycarbonyl, benzyl, and benzyloxycarbonyl,

in the presence of a coupling agent selected from :

(1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-  
ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride,  
(1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-  
ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,  
(1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-  
ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole,  
(1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-  
ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride / N-hydroxysuccinimide,  
(1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-  
ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride / 3-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine,  
(1,3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-  
ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride / N-hydroxyphthalimide,  
dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole,  
dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / N-hydroxysuccinimide,  
dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / 3-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine,  
dicyclohexylcarbodiimide / N-hydroxyphthalimide,  
O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate,  
O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate,  
O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,  
benzotriazol-1-yl-oxytripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate,  
benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris(dimethylamino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate,  
O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,  
O-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-bis(pentamethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,  
chloro-tripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate,  
chloro-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)formamidinium hexafluorophosphate,  
chloro-1,1,3,3-bis(pentamethylene)formamidinium hexafluorophosphate,  
N-ethoxycarbonyl-2-ethoxy-1,2-dihydroquinoline,  
O-[(ethoxycarbonyl)-cyanomethyleneamino]-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium  
tetrafluoroborate,  
O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoro-  
borate,

O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,

O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / N-methylmorpholine,

O-(3,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazin-3-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / collidine,

O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,

O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,

O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate,

O-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-1-pyridyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium hexafluorophosphate / 1-hydroxy-benzotriazole,

O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate,

O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium tetrafluoroborate,

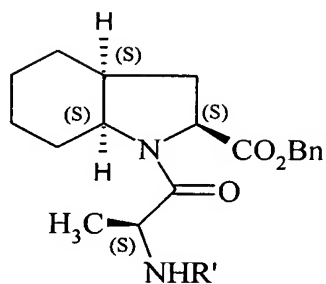
O-(N-succinimidyl)-1,1,3,3-bis(tetramethylene)uronium tetrafluoroborate / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole,

O-(5-norbornene-2,3-dicarboximido)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate, propanephosphonic anhydride,

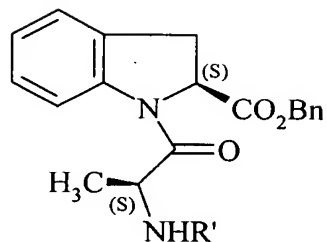
N-hydroxy-5-norbornene-2,3-dicarboxylic acid imide,  
and N-hydroxy-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-pyridine,

optionally in the presence of a base,

to yield a compound of formula (Va) or (Vb), respectively, depending on whether the compound of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb) is used as starting material :



(Va)



(Vb),

which is subjected to a catalytic hydrogenation reaction in the presence of palladium to yield the product of formula (I).

8. (previously presented) The process of Claim 7, wherein the compound of formula (IIIa) is used as starting material.
9. (previously presented) The process of Claim 7, wherein the compound of formula (IIIb) is used as starting material.
10. (previously presented) The process of Claim 8, wherein the hydrogenation reaction on the compound of formula (Va) is carried out under a hydrogen pressure of less than 10 bars.
11. (previously presented) The process of Claim 9, wherein the hydrogenation reaction on the compound of formula (Vb) is carried out under a hydrogen pressure of from 10 to 35 bars.
12. (previously presented) A process for the synthesis of perindopril or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof starting from a compound of formula (I), wherein the compound of formula (I) is obtained by the synthesis process according to Claim 7.